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March 29, 2006

Examiner Ramsey Zacharia
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

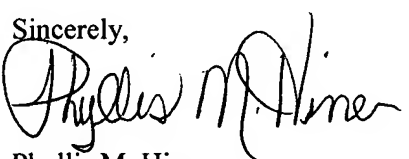
Re: Misdirected Mail-Office Communication
For: David P. Hendricks
Patent Application Serial No. 10/791,542

Dear Ramsey:

Enclosed is the Office Communication for the above-referenced patent application. These papers were sent to us in error by the Patent Office and we are returning them to you, per your telephone request of 3/28/06.

To acknowledge receipt of this communication and the enclosed Non-final Office Action, please sign the enclosed copy of this letter and return it to my attention in the envelope provided.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Phyllis M. Hines
Paralegal-Patent Administrator

PH:llh
Enclosures

ACKNOWLEDGMENT:

Signature: _____
Name: _____ Date: _____
For: Ramsey Zacharia, Primary Examiner
Tech Center 1700



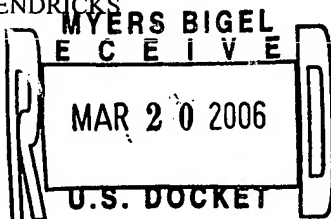
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/791,542	03/02/2004	Vinay G. Sakhrani	TFR-001	3383

48366 7590 03/16/2006

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EXAMINER

ZACHARIA, RAMSEY E

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

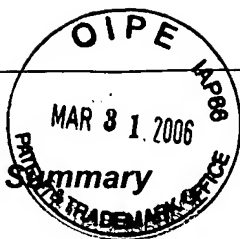
1773

DATE MAILED: 03/16/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

03-20-06 A09:45 IN



Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/791,542

Applicant(s)

SAKHRANI ET AL.

Examiner

Ramsey Zacharia

Art Unit

1773

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 February 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-9 and 19-24 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 10-18 and 25-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3/02/2004</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election of claims 10-18 and 25-31 in the reply filed on 27 February 2006 is acknowledged. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)).
2. Claims 1-9 and 19-24 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on 27 February 2006.

Information Disclosure Statement

3. Citation #6 in the Information Disclosure Statement filed 02 March 2004 has been lined through because there is no US 4,879,113 issued to Yasunga et al. on 24 October 1989.

Specification

4. The lengthy specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

Claim Objections

5. Applicant is advised that should claim 26 be found allowable, claim 31 will be objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate thereof. When two claims in an application are duplicates or else are so close in content that they both cover the same thing, despite a slight difference in wording, it is proper after allowing one claim to object to the other as being a substantial duplicate of the allowed claim. See MPEP § 706.03(k).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

6. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

7. Claims 11, 12, 27, and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

8. A broad range or limitation together with a narrow range or limitation that falls within the broad range or limitation (in the same claim) is considered indefinite, since the resulting claim does not clearly set forth the metes and bounds of the patent protection desired. See MPEP § 2173.05(c). Note the explanation given by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences in *Ex parte Wu*, 10 USPQ2d 2031, 2033 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1989), as to where broad language is followed by "such as" and then narrow language. The Board stated that this can render a claim indefinite by raising a question or doubt as to whether the feature introduced by such language is (a) merely exemplary of the remainder of the claim, and therefore not required, or (b) a required

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feature of the claims. Note also, for example, the decisions of *Ex parte Steigewald*, 131 USPQ 74 (Bd. App. 1961); *Ex parte Hall*, 83 USPQ 38 (Bd. App. 1948); and *Ex parte Hasche*, 86 USPQ 481 (Bd. App. 1949).

Claims 11 and 27 recite the broad recitation "about 0.1 to about 95", and the claims also recite "about 0.5 to about 50" and "about 0.5 to about 10" which are narrower statements of the range/limitation.

Claims 12 and 28 recite the broad recitation "about ambient to about 150 °C", and the claims also recite "about 80 °C to about 130 °C" which is a narrower statement of the range/limitation. Additionally, claims 12 and 28 recite the broad recitation "about 0.5 minute to about 60 minutes", and the claims also recite "about 0.5 minute to about 40 minutes" and "about 0.5 minute to 30 minutes" which are narrower statements of the range/limitation.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

9. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

10. Claims 10-18 and 25-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Williams et al. (U.S. Patent 4,822,632).

Williams et al. teach a surface coated with a lubricant wherein at least one of the surface and the lubricant is treated with an ionizing plasma (column 2, lines 34-41). That is, the surface and/or deposited lubricant are treated with ionizing plasma. The preferred lubricant is a

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polydialkylsiloxane (column 3, lines 47-48), i.e. a polysiloxane-based compound. The plasma may be generated from a variety of gasses, such as air, hydrogen, helium, etc. and performed at any pressure (column 4, lines 12-24). The lubricant may be applied neat or in a solvent with the subsequent removal of the solvent by evaporation (column 3, lines 63-65). In the embodiment of Example II, the lubricant is applied from a 1.5 wt% solution (column 5, lines 29-33). In the embodiment of Example II, the lubricant comprises a blend of a low viscosity silicone and a higher viscosity silicone (column 5, lines 65-68).

Regarding the limitation that the lubricant is exposed to an energy source at atmospheric pressure, one skilled in the art would readily envisage atmospheric pressure because Williams et al. teach that any pressure can be used.

Williams et al. teach the use of a blend of silicones having different viscosity. Regarding claims 14 and 30, one of silicones reads on the lubricant while the other reads on a viscosity modifier and/or an antiwear agent (since lubricants are designed to reduce wear).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

11. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

12. Claims 10-18 and 25-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Williams et al. (U.S. Patent 4,822,632).

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Williams et al. teach all the limitations of claims 10-18 and 25-31, as outlined above, except for illustrating embodiments in which certain recited product-by-process limitations are disclosed, for examples, exposure at atmospheric pressure and the drying conditions of the lubricant-solvent solution. When the prior art discloses a product which reasonably appears to be either identical with or only slightly different than a product claim in a product-by-process claim, the burden is on the applicant to present evidence from which the examiner could reasonably conclude that the claimed product differs in kind from those of the prior art. *In re Brown*, 459 F. 2d 531, 173 USPQ 685 (CCPA 1972); *In re Fessman*, 489 F. 2d 742, 180 USPQ 324 (CCPA 1974). This burden is NOT discharged solely because the product was derived from a process not known to the prior art. *In re Fessman*, 489 F. 2d 742, 180 USPQ 324 (CCPA 1974). Furthermore, the determination of patentability for a product-by-process claim is based on the product itself and not on the method of production. If the product in the product-by-process claim is the same or obvious from a product of the prior art, the claim is unpatentable even though the prior product was made by a different process. *In re Thorpe*, 227 USPQ 964, 966 (Fed. Cir. 1985) and MPEP § 2113. In this case, the article of Williams et al. appears to be the same as that of the claimed invention and the burden is on the applicants to conclusively demonstrate that the claimed invention differs from that of Williams et al.

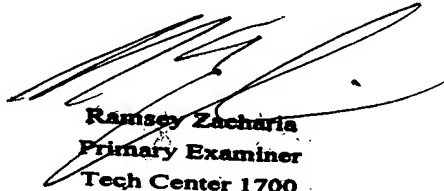
Conclusion

13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ramsey Zacharia whose telephone number is (571) 272-1518. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 9 to 5.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Carol Chaney, can be reached at (571) 272-1284. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Ramsey Zacharia
Primary Examiner
Tech Center 1700



PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0551-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 2

Complete if Known

Application Number	
Filing Date	
First Named Inventor	Vinay G. Sakhrani
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	TFR-001

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
REZ	1	US- 4,536,179	08-20-1985	Anderson et al.	
REZ	2	US- 4,767,414	08-30-1988	Willams et al.	
REZ	3	US- 4,822,632	04-18-1989	Willams et al.	
REZ	4	US- 4,842,889	06-27-1989	Hu et al.	
REZ	5	US- 4,844,986	07-04-1989	Karakelle et al.	
REZ	6	US- 4,879,113	10-24-1988	Yasunaga et al.	
REZ	7	US- 4,960,609	10-02-1990	Homola et al.	
REZ	8	US- 5,331,487	07-19-1994	Gregory et al.	
REZ	9	US- 5,338,312	08-16-1994	Montgomery	
REZ	10	US- 5,591,481	01-07-1997	Takahashi et al.	
REZ	11	US- 6,221,434 B1	04-24-2001	Visca et al.	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
REL	12	JP 06-304243	11-01-1994	Yamaguchi et al		✓

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	3/9/06
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number

Filing Date

First Named Inventor

Vinay G. Sakhrani

Art Unit

Examiner Name

Sheet

2

of

2

Attorney Docket Number

TFR-001

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
REZ	13	S. CRYSTAL COLEY et al., "Performance of three portable infusion-pump devices set to deliver 2 ml/hr", Am. Jrnl. of Health-System Pharmacists, Vol. 54, 06-01-1997, pp. 1277-80	
REZ	14	JODY L. CARL et al., "Fluid delivery from infusion-pump syringes", Am. Jrnl. of Health-System Pharmacists, Vol. 52, 07-01-1995, pp. 1428-32	
REZ	15	T. NEFF, et al., "Evaluation of the FASTSTART mode for reducing start-up delay in syringe pump infusion systems", Swiss Medical Weekly, Vol 131, 2001, pp. 219-222	
REZ	16	R. FERRARI and D.R. BEECH, "Infusion Pumps: guidelines and pitfalls", Australian Provider, Vol. 18, No. 2, 1995	
REZ	17	A. LEIBMANN-VINSON, et al., "Physics of Friction in Disposable Plastic Syringes", The American Physics Society meeting, March 1997, Session J32.02	

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

3/9/06

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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